

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 211

By Smith

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of June Cooper of Chattanooga.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of June Cooper, a dedicated community servant who is remembered for her work with people with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cooper enjoyed a fulfilling career as a nurse with a primary focus on home health care; she was also well known in the Hixson community for her years of service to various business and arts organizations, her church, and her neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, she served the Hixson Chamber of Commerce, North River Civitan Club, Hamilton County Republican Women, Chattanooga Little Theatre, United Methodist Women, and Forest Plaza Neighborhood Association; she also campaigned for numerous candidates for elected offices in the Chattanooga area and the State; and

WHEREAS, June Cooper served the Hamilton County Republican Women's Club as two-term president from 2000 to 2001 and as a historian, and at the time of her passing, she was the longest-participating member of the club; she also served on a host of committees, including Wreaths Across America, where, in 2020, she helped raise a record-breaking amount that led to the funding of over 1,100 wreaths; Caring for America; Christmas Baptist Childrens Home; Lincoln Day Dinner; and Ladies Day on the Hill. Her work in politics also included phone banking and word-of-mouth campaigning; and

WHEREAS, a recent honoree at the Lincoln Day Dinner, Mrs. Cooper also served as a volunteer, putting together gift bags for the Baptist Children's Home on Lee Highway; she was also an active participant in the Freedom Foundation of Chattanooga; an active member of Ruritan, where she provided hospitality at their Annual Car Show; and a longtime member of the

Scenic City Civitan Club, where she served as president from 1988 to 1989 and from 1995 to 1996; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, she was the recipient of numerous service awards for her work in fundraising for cerebral palsy, she was awarded a Medallion Member Award for twenty-five years of dedicated service in 2007, she received recognition and appreciation from then-Governor Ned McWherter and the chairman of Tennessee Bicentennial Commission for her contributions to the 1996 Tennessee Bicentennial Celebration of statehood; and she received recognition in 1994 from the City of Chattanooga for her loyal and dedicated service for the improvement and well-being of the community from Mayor Gene Roberts; and

WHEREAS, June Cooper enjoyed working in her local community with the Hixson Chamber of Commerce to steward small businesses to the Hixson area; she received recognition in 1998 for "making a dream become a reality for Hixson High School Homecoming" and was awarded with an Honorary Lifetime Membership. Her work with the Chamber of Commerce also included working diligently with the North River Civic Center to amplify its opening and facilities, and in 2015, she won the Community Impact Award for her services and leadership in the Hixson Community; and

WHEREAS, June Cooper was passionate about serving the special needs community; she was a founding parent of the Parent Teacher Organization at the Orange Grove Center and the president for several terms of the organization now known as The Arc Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cooper was an active member of St. Luke United Methodist Church for sixty years, serving the United Methodist Women, before she moved her membership to Hixson United Methodist Church, where she was an active member of the Gooden Sunday School class; and

WHEREAS, June Cooper loved football and was an avid fan and booster of the University of Tennessee Volunteers for more than sixty years; she also cheerfully supported her grandchildren at their sporting events; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cooper was deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Alfred "Al" Harrison Cooper, Jr., and her son, Michael "Mike" Scot Cooper; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her daughter, Diane Cooper (Mike) Wallace and her grandchildren, Ben Wallace and Page Wallace; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cooper leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of June Cooper, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Cooper.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.